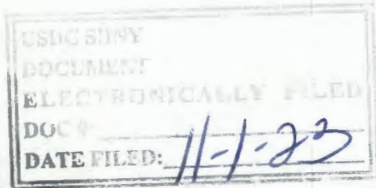


MATTHEW J. KLUGER  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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888 GRAND CONCOURSE, SUITE 1H  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451  
(718) 293-4900 • FAX (718) 618-0140  
www.klugerlawfirm.com

October 20, 2023

By ECF

The Honorable Lewis A. Kaplan  
United States District Court Judge  
Southern District of New York  
500 Pearl Street  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: United States v. Ira Richards**  
**13 Cr. 818 (LAK)**

Dear Judge Kaplan,

On or around August 26, 2020, Ira Richards filed a *pro se*, "compassionate release" motion seeking a reduction of his sentence. Thereafter, on or about December 23, 2020, the Court assigned me as CJA counsel to assist Mr. Richards with his application. I write now to update the Court on the status of this motion.

One of the central tenets of Mr. Richard's motion for compassionate release is that while he was an inmate at FCI Berlin in New Hampshire, he defended a guard who was under attack from another inmate. Counsel had hoped to support and corroborate this claim with official prison records and commendation. Unfortunately, despite my best efforts, I have been unable to obtain Mr. Richard's prison records from the Bureau of Prisons. Therefore, at this point, rather than continue to tilt at BOP windmills, I have little choice but to file the motion without the assistance of what I had hoped would be persuasive evidence of rehabilitation and good character.

Accordingly, given my current schedule and other court-imposed deadlines, I respectfully request that the Court set December 11, 2023 as the deadline for the filing of Mr. Richard's compassionate release motion.

SO ORDERED

*Granted*  
LEWIS A. KAPLAN, USDJ

*11/1/23*